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The Commonweal

*A Weekly Review
of Literature, The Arts and Public Affairs*

Friday, August 13, 1937

OUR EVOLVING GOVERNMENT

Charles Willis Thompson

"RERUM NOVARUM" AND LABOR

W. F. Kernan

MONTFAUCON AND LISIEUX

An Editorial

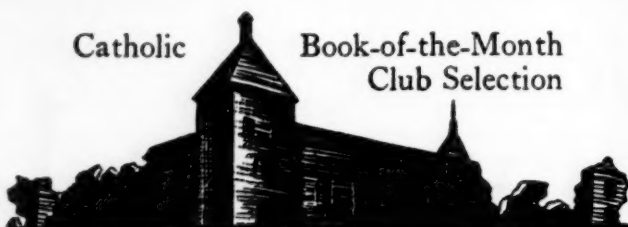
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John P. McCaffrey, Geoffrey Stone, James J. Griffin,
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NUMBER 16

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The Commonweal

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VOLUME XXVI

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Previous issues of THE COMMONWEAL are indexed in the *Reader's Guide* and the *Catholic Periodical Index*.

MONTFAUCON AND LISIEUX

AL

A FEW days after the conclusion of their remarkable St. Mihiel drive in September, 1918, more than 1,000,000 American troops began the Meuse-Argonne offensive. Our First Army, hurriedly equipped and only partially trained, during seven weeks of desperate hand-to-hand fighting against veteran German defensive units, advanced steadily through tangled woods and underbrush toward the Sedan-Mézières railroad. This was the principal line of supply for most of the German forces on the Western Front. If it were cut, a German retirement was inevitable. It was cut. On November 6, having suffered approximately 120,000 casualties, our troops reached the outskirts of Sedan and made the German line untenable.

The day before the Americans entered the city, President Wilson informed Germany that she might apply for an armistice to Marshal Foch.

The United States government erected a monu-

ment at Montfaucon to commemorate the achievements of its gallant soldiers in that great offensive and to honor the French soldiers who fought in that region. In dedicating the monument on August 1 of this year, General John J. Pershing, leader of our expeditionary forces, emphasized the fact that the World War brought no profit to anyone, but left many questions unsettled.

"They cannot be settled by war," he said, "yet prospects for peace do not look promising."

During the past twenty years our government has consistently and indefatigably advocated the maintenance of peace. We have advocated, in the words of Secretary of State Cordell Hull, national and international self-restraint. We have advocated the abolition of armed force as an instrument of national policy. We have repeatedly stated our profound conviction that one nation should not interfere in the internal affairs of other nations. We have advocated the adjust-

ment of international problems by processes of peaceful negotiations and agreement. We have insisted upon the principle of the faithful observance of international agreements. We have recognized the fact that treaties can be and in many instances should be modified—not after the manner of contemporary dictators but in a spirit of mutual helpfulness. We have sought to cooperate with other nations in the promotion of economic stability and security. We have expressed a desire to limit and reduce armaments—if other nations would agree to do likewise. We have insisted upon our right to maintain such armed forces that are or may be necessary for our national security.

However sincere and unselfish may be our desire to maintain peace in the world, other nations are apparently by no means motivated by the same altruistic ideals. General Pershing referred to the rampant hatred and suspicion that seems to have gripped so many governments and resulted in an appalling international armament race.

"If no cure is discovered for this temporary madness," he asserted, "we are in a hopeless state, for of one thing we may be certain, and that is, if another war takes place, western civilization as we know it cannot survive."

So far as national policy is concerned, we should intensify our efforts on behalf of the cause of world peace. At the same time, we should keep our powder dry—or as General Pershing expressed it, "We must ever hold ourselves ready to yield our all to defend the liberty we have inherited."

But what is the cure for war?

Most certainly the press of the world, if it would do a thorough job of putting its own house in order and resolve, in the future, first of all to avoid cheap sensationalism and secondly to "elaborate news that tends to encourage a friendly attitude among peoples," could make an exceedingly valuable contribution to the cause of international peace.

Most certainly officials in high places should strive continuously for better understanding. All zealous advocates of peace should derive immense encouragement from the fact that millions of people of all classes and creeds in every nation heartily detest war. If two such great democracies as France and the United States have maintained friendly relations for so long, surely other nations in Europe and Asia can find some common basis for the preservation of peace.

But what is the real cure for war?

We find it in the brief radio message of Pope Pius XI to the thousands of pilgrims gathered at Lisieux on July 12—just a few weeks before the Montfaucon ceremony—for the French National Eucharistic Congress and for the dedication of a

Basilica of Peace to Saint Thérèse, the Little Flower of Jesus.

"Let us pray to the Creator," the Holy Father declared, "Who for that very reason is the Supreme Lord of Heaven and earth, of peoples and of nations. Let us pray that, to this world so distraught and confused and to all peoples which are so oppressed by the miseries of today and so fearful of tomorrow, He may grant a little tranquillity in order and peace, with a return of those ways which are the only ways—the recognition of His Divine Sovereignty, obedience to His holy laws, and the practise of justice and charity, the more bountifully toward those who have less and who for that very reason are in greater need and suffering."

Week by Week

SENATOR VANDENBERG precipitated a stormy debate in the weary, short-tempered Senate when he suggested a resolution to the effect that it was the sense of that body that the appointment to fill the Van Devanter vacancy should be made only when the Senate could act in ratifying or rejecting the nomination.

Should Mr. Roosevelt decide to act in the immediate future, the liberal candidate, whoever he might be, would undoubtedly be subjected to a most severe and searching scrutiny and might become the storm center of another prolonged conflict. Should Mr. Roosevelt, acting upon the Attorney-General's opinion that he has the power under the Constitution to make the appointment when Congress was not in session, postpone his selection until some future date, he would be certain to stir up a tremendous amount of ill-will in the Senate. Senator Burke asserted that if a recess appointment were made and if the nominee took his place on the Court, "he would never have my vote on confirmation when his nomination should come before the Senate." Justice Van Devanter retired on June 1. It would appear that a sufficient time has now elapsed for Mr. Roosevelt to make up his mind. The choice is admittedly difficult, but the nomination, in our opinion, should be made now. In all probability the major items in the administration's program will be acted upon during the present session. The fate of the adjournment drive depends upon the House. Speaker Bankhead declared that every effort would be made to expedite matters and that practically all major measures, except a farm bill, would be disposed of before adjournment.

DOES a state of war exist in North China? The Japanese recently attacked Chinese units at Nankow Pass. China is reported to be rushing

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troops to reinforce the badly battered Twenty-ninth Army. Japanese planes bombed Tachow and strafed troop trains along the Peiping-Hankow Railway. Latest dispatches indicate that both China and Japan are preparing for a major conflict. Thus far, however, Japan has not declared war on China and it is not likely that a formal declaration will ever be made. But does such a state of war now exist that would demand the application of our Neutrality Act? It may be said that a state of war does in fact exist but that our government does not choose to recognize it. The reason for this strange case of diplomatic blindness is that to invoke the law would be to favor the aggressor nation. Japan has already violated the Kellogg Pact, the Nine Power Pact and the Covenant of the League of Nations, but it is far better equipped than China to acquire necessary commodities from this country on a "cash and carry" basis. The Neutrality Act is therefore not invoked and Senator Key Pittman, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has protested against those who have urged an immediate application of the law. The obvious conclusion would seem to be that our Neutrality Act is badly in need of amendment or revision.

A WHOLE new field of war veteran subsidies was tested in the House recently, just before the Veterans Administration had tallied up and found that the government at one time or another before May 31, 1937, had paid benefits—not including land grants—of \$21,993,632,266.78 to the veterans of our various war and their legal affinities. The new idea is to base benefit payments solely on the age of the veteran. Every veteran who reached sixty-five years of age would get \$60 or so a month with no regard to need of physical disability. We have no desire to enter into the morality and propriety of soldier bonuses and allowances at this point, but we do hope such a purely mercenary and inequitable tendency will quickly pass away and not revive year after year until something more is done about it. Patriotism certainly should pay, but it should pay to the common good and not in so crudely direct and selfish a manner to the patriot. If the veterans feel they were conscripted mercenaries who need a sort of trade union these days to get them, retroactively, a fair bargain with their bosses, they could find without much trouble a juster means of correcting the situation. They could try to abolish the modern idea of the conscript army, or limit America's fighting to wars which all citizens would know were for the common good and which all would desire freely to prosecute. But raiding the Treasury is undoubtedly easier than stopping modern wars.

THE QUALITY of a debate depends by no means completely upon the force and cogency of the arguments set forth. The most important issues are not mathematical problems to be solved absolutely by weighing the declared and conflicting reasons. Resolved:

the Wages and Hours Law would improve the condition of the country. The congressional rationalizations defending and attacking this proposition are not likely to be the basis of any citizen's opinion, and they are not worthy of filling that rôle. Reason is not to blame, but however dangerous it may be for a subtle philosopher to criticize pure reason, it is obviously dangerous for a person, learned or quite unlearned, to overlook the possible impurity of reason. As in so many of the New Deal debates, motives are now strenuously questioned. Voters do not know how closely their conception of the country's good and their representatives' correspond, and the representatives have every excuse to doubt the virtue of their constituents' real conception. This is an extreme, if not uncommon, corruption, and it makes the value of expressed arguments discouragingly slight. There are several sects that claim the importance of motive is practically zero, and that you might as well be killed for a sheep as a goat. The other goats and sheep could hardly be expected to consider it a matter of complete indifference. It is one thing to stop a federal law, for instance, so that you can make a better local one, and another thing to stop it in order to preserve local anarchy. It is one thing to cripple public administration to prevent private tyranny, and another to do it in order to preserve public tyranny. It is nice to protect widows and orphans, but questionable to maintain gross speculation. The motive of keeping things going is hard to challenge, but we reserve quantities of mistrust for the motive of keeping them going the way they have been going in Alabama and South Carolina and in various idyllic mill towns of the virtuous North.

JUDGE MALCOLM HATFIELD, of St. Joseph, Michigan, recently directed our attention to the fact that Norway, Denmark and Sweden have no juvenile delinquency laws as child crime does not exist there. Parents in those countries, it is reliably reported, are so alert to their duties and responsibilities that no juvenile laws or courts are required. We hasten to observe that far too many parents in the United States are so busy with their club and social obligations that they have no time left for the moral and religious instruction of their children. They fail also in another way—bad example. Judge Hatfield asserts that the price of a half-fare bus ticket, for instance, proved the

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means of landing a thirteen-year-old girl in a juvenile court. Twenty-four hours before her apprehension by juvenile authorities for stealing from a ten-cent store, this child had heard her mother tell a bus driver that she was eleven years of age. While the mother saved a small amount of money by misrepresenting her daughter's actual age, this proved to be the most expensive ticket she ever purchased because an example of dishonesty was set which the child was not slow in adopting. And there are many more serious instances. Juvenile delinquency can be prevented. But parents must first recognize the fact that they, and not educational politicians, are primarily responsible before God for the proper Christian education of their children. And not the least potent method of instruction is good example.

THERE are certain of one's earnest convictions that one would nevertheless prefer not to have endorsed by science. Though we

Our Problem: have written with concern regarding the apparent rise of mental pathology in this country, it is more melancholy than gratifying

to read the speech of Dr. Horatio M. Pollock of Albany to the World Population Congress of Paris on the same subject. Dr. Pollock finds that all civilization nations are threatened, but notably our own. Similarly, the illustration offered to the Congress by Dr. Franz Boas, Columbia's famous anthropologist, while he combated, with much point and pith, the German theory of fixed racial types and superiorities, is too significant a reinforcement of our own fears about crime, to make cheerful reading. For when Dr. Boas wished to prove that the races have a very large common denomination, and that environment is the major cause of variation, he instinctively turned to the data that are most voluminous and most familiar in America: crime records. "The types of crimes committed by immigrants differ in character and frequency from those committed by their descendants, whose crime records are quite similar to those of native-born Americans." With no intention of proving anything direct about crime, he bore appallingly forceful testimony to our crime problem.

WE ARE not the first, by many hundreds, to couple the increase of crime with the increase of mental disease. We are not the first, by an even wider margin, to suggest that the absence of religious and moral training has a profound bearing upon the situation. It is the specific teaching of the Catholic Church that religion is the normal and indispensable food of the soul, and that its effects organically penetrate the entire personality; it is at least the implicit belief of non-Catholic Christians; and it is coming to be a prag-

matic tenet of an influential school of psychologists. Communities and groups throughout the country are beginning to reawaken to the sanative function of religion in the individual and in society. But this has not been enough so far to stem the tide. The moral polarization of character, the cohesive element which holds it together and makes it truly and deeply human—this element, which religion and religion alone supplies, is still steadily thinning out in the case of millions of Americans who every year recede further from their supernatural inheritance. It is of incalculable importance that this be widely and seriously understood by our people, and that a real beginning be made to counteract it. Otherwise, reminders like those furnished by Drs. Pollock and Boas can but increase.

WE EXTEND heartiest congratulations to the graduates of three schools of social action for the clergy which were held recently in the Archdioceses of Milwaukee (one hundred and twenty-two priests from eleven dioceses) and San Francisco (thirty priests

from five dioceses), and in the Diocese of Toledo (fifty-five priests from five dioceses). A fourth school opened in Los Angeles on August 2 with a starting enrolment of forty priests. The purpose of these month-long summer schools—the outgrowth of a plan submitted by the Most Reverend Edwin V. O'Hara, Bishop of Great Falls, and approved by the archbishops and bishops of the United States in November, 1936—is to study the great social encyclicals, to investigate the facts of industrial and labor conditions, and to review the principles and methods of the participation of the clergy in economic questions. In his concluding address to the students attending sessions at the Seminary of St. Francis de Sales, the Most Reverend Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Milwaukee, emphasized the fact that the clergy are the custodians of Christian morality and hence cannot remain silent when that morality is threatened. He expressed the hope that, having acquainted themselves with the social teaching of the Church and the methods of applying these principles to contemporary problems, the student-priests would get in closer contact with the workmen. "Our hope," he said, "is that some day we shall have a school to which we can invite our Catholic laboring men and our Catholic employers and teach them the principles of social justice." As a forward step in this direction, he advocated the establishment of parish study clubs. We are confident that the laity will enthusiastically endorse this vitally important program and will extend the utmost cooperation to the clergy in every diocese in the joint work of reconstructing a truly Christian social order.

OUR EVOLVING GOVERNMENT

By CHARLES WILLIS THOMPSON

SO MANY and so diverse voices have said that the legislative battle over President Roosevelt's Court Bill will be an event in history that it may almost be said to have been proclaimed in chorus. Whether or not the event become historic in other ways, it will ultimately be found to have added another stone to the building of what is the real government of the United States.

The man in the street will say that that government was created, for good and all, at Philadelphia in 1787, except for such amendments to the Constitution as may be added from time to time when there is sufficient reason. In truth what was created in 1787 was only a framework within which the government and the country might thereafter evolve. This evolution might prove to be in any conceivable direction; and in point of fact it has taken, in 150 years, directions which the framers of 1787 believed inconceivable.

When President Jefferson annexed the vast domain then called Louisiana the annexation was unconstitutional. Jefferson tried to get the Constitution amended to make his act constitutional, but that would have been retroactive legislation and against the American genius. Nevertheless his purchase created a precedent, and thereafter the government annexed Northwestern Mexico, Alaska, the Philippine Islands, Hawaii and numerous less celebrated territories.

All these annexations flowed from Jefferson's one annexation, to make which the Constitution gave him no power. Precedent works as potently in other fields as it does in the creation of the body of the common law. Especially is it potent in the field of government. The American government is a growing, live thing, not a mummy swathed in ceremonies bound round it in 1787. In "Bulwark of the Republic," Burton J. Hendrick says that Jefferson's annexation and all others down to that of the Virgin Islands, "must be regarded as part of that unwritten American constitution which has grown up, by precedents and acts of Congress, alongside the formal document."

True, the outcome of the battle over the Court Bill did not create one of these unwritten amendments to the Constitution, but it created something else. It is not only the Constitution, whether written or unwritten, which goes to make up the evolving American government, but also the final decision, almost always an unwritten one, as to what extensions and limits are henceforth permissible to this or that branch of the government. Under Chief Justice Marshall the Supreme Court

took upon itself the ancient but lapsed duty of interpreting a constitution, and in his time the Court became so wholly different a branch of government from what it had been under Chief Justices Jay and Ellsworth that most people do not know Jay and Ellsworth were ever Chief Justices. They suppose Marshall to have been the first, not the third.

Even more striking has been the evolution of the Senate and of the House. For years the Senate was a mere vermiform appendix in the House's body. De Witt Clinton resigned from the Senate to accept a municipal appointment. Andrew Jackson quit the Senate for a more active and useful scene in the Western frontier. In 1805, Aaron Burr, addressing the Senate as he resigned the Vice-President's gavel, movingly entreated it to realize its destiny of preeminence. In less than thirty years, when Webster and Calhoun were its foremost guides, it realized Burr's dream. Subsequent phases of its evolution have been various.

The House's evolution has been equally pronounced, but along different lines. To give only a single illustration, it is only a matter of two and a half decades since the speakership ruled the House. The speaker dealt, on equal terms and with equal power, with the Presidents and with the Senate. The change is great from the times which ended with Cannon to the times of which Bankhead today is the official representative.

So might the evolution of the Cabinet be examined, and of each executive department as well. But this is enough to bring out the processes of what is unwritten and silent along with what was written, either in 1787 or in subsequent amendments, or in statutes. What historic effect did the late debate and its result produce in determining, not a point in the unwritten constitution, but in other layers of our evolving government?

On June 14, the Judiciary Committee reported the President's bill to the Senate with the recommendation that it do not pass. It demanded a decision on the proposal so emphatic "that its parallel will never again be presented to the free representatives of the free people of America."

When the President launched the plan, on February 5, his majority would have been simply overwhelming if a vote had then been taken. Mr. Farley was not exaggerating when he said, on April 3, "We have plenty of votes to put this over"; and he was not bragging when he said, on May 13, that the Court Bill was "in the bag." Forty-eight votes are a majority of the Senate, and six days before the rout and surrender fifty-

one votes were sure for the bill. The surrender came on July 21 when Vice-President Garner said to Senator Wheeler, leader of the opposition, "Write your own ticket." The "ticket" was adopted in the Senate by a vote of seventy to twenty. No more all-embracing and unconditional surrender was ever made.

The Court Bill had been beaten by the steadily—and rapidly—mounting tide of opposition; added to the not less important factor that there was, throughout the country, no counter-balancing tide of enthusiastic and determined support for it.

Such a history, and from such causes, makes for one of the marking-places in the history of American development. By such marking-places for 150 years the record is kept of those things which the government, and a branch of it, may do, and what it may not do. In each such case "the Moving Finger writes; and, having writ, moves on." One such marking-place was the case of *Marbury vs. Madison* before the Supreme Court in Chief Marshall's time. *Marbury* was only an insignificant politician who wanted to hold on to a small job; nevertheless his case became a landmark in governmental evolution. Another was Senator Webster's speech replying to Senator Hayne. Neither was a formal amendment to the Constitution, but both amended it; and so with all the other marking-places along our evolutionary pathway.

It is not by writings in constitutional amendments formally submitted that these marking-places are made. Sometimes they need no Senator Webster, no President Jefferson, no Chief Justice Marshall, no speech, no message, no Court decision or anything else you can put your finger on. For instance, a President is elected not by the people but by an Electoral College; so the Constitution-makers meant and intended, and so the Constitution still says he is. But in fact the electors are automata voting as the people have directed. The original scheme so toilsomely wrought out by the Constitution perished after the first two presidential elections. It is still in the Constitution because after the election of 1796—and the storm of indignation that year against one elector who took the Constitution at its word and voted for the candidate he considered the best—it was so dead as not to be worth the trouble of an amendment.

Why is it that the Vice-President, on the death of a President, becomes President? Nothing in the Constitution entitles him to do so. The Constitution merely directs him to perform the President's duties in case of the latter's disability or death. It was assumed that this meant "until Congress shall provide for filling the vacancy." But in 1841, when the first death of a President occurred, the Vice-President issued a proclamation signed "John Tyler, President of the United

States," and acted in accordance with that title. There was much indignation, but it was ineffective. That precedent made it as much the law of the land as if the Constitution, silent on that point, had been amended.

What makes this Senate outcome another marking-place is not the defeat of a bill. It is the history and nature of the struggle and the character, not the mere fact, of its result. Between them they have combined to make the decision so complete that the position of the Supreme Court as an independent and separate part of our tripartite government has been defined for the future. Defined, not redefined; for hitherto its independence as such, though assumed, has not been subjected to the test of real battle on the question itself. The movements by Congress in President Johnson's term to cut away some of its powers were not in that class; they were "nibbling" attacks, to use a military phrase, not a frontal attack. Aside from Johnson's time, there is no case anywhere near in point. This time the opposition headed by Wheeler held the issue strictly to the one vital question; there were no diversions into related fields of argument; the vital consideration remained not only uppermost but sole. The decision is therefore on the great point attacked and on that alone.

To sum it up, the character of the struggle and the peculiarly decisive nature of its conclusion have, for good and all, woven the wholly separate position of the Supreme Court into the traditions of the country. It is now and will hereafter be as settled a part of those traditions as the Monroe Doctrine—which was merely a presidential message regarding an occurrence of the time, the South American revolutions—and more so than the tradition against giving a President a third term, which arose solely from the opinion of one President, Jefferson, that to give him more might lead to despotism. Contrary to a common but mistaken impression, Washington had nothing to do with it and apparently did not agree with it.

Via Crucis: Ninth Station

Beneath the burden of this splintered tree
I, too, have fallen where sharp heights begin,
Wine-red the shadow that withholds from me
Peace that the turtle's nest keeps safe within.
When did I hear Him in the straining wind—
Reach His firm fingers in the lengths of rain?
(The bright blood beats upon the fettered mind—
The heart's fierce challenge whose fixed law is pain.)
Then in the blackness where the bat-wing turns
From many voices comes a hopeful cry:
"Look toward the morning—see the Day Star burns!
Rise, like the mountains, for we shall not die."
Christ, we are still a race of little men—
Gather our world into Your hands again.

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"RERUM NOVARUM" AND LABOR¹

By W. F. KERNAN

IN APPLYING the precepts of Leo XIII to the present labor crisis, it is important to note that the forty years between "Rerum Novarum" and Pius XI's "Quadragesimo Anno" ("Forty Years After"), saw a tremendous concentration of wealth in the hands of a few. In the fact that wealth means power and particularly in the arbitrary, anti-political nature of such power, Pius XI, like his great predecessor, finds "the characteristic note of the modern economic order." Having this in mind we are enabled to arrive at a fairly accurate estimate of the causes underlying the present discontents. For example: the 200 odd corporations which control 55 percent of the nation's corporate wealth view the New Deal with grave alarm and consider the Wagner Act as the abomination of desolation. Why? Because under this sort of legislation the "dictatorship of wealth" must either correct itself or undergo correction at the hands of the government. Now we hear it said everywhere that the Wagner Act and other New Deal measures are hostile to capital and favorable to labor. Again, why? Because the State's stern admonition "universalize your aims" spells the end of arbitrary power—the end, that is to say, of the economic order which Leo XIII unhesitatingly characterized as an evil.

Thus in an epoch when, as Sir Alfred Zimmern very truly says, "the theory and practise of industrial government [what Pius XI calls "the social organization of economics"] is centuries behind the theory and practise of politics" it will naturally be difficult to accomplish the enfranchisement of labor. There is more than an implication of this melancholy wisdom in the sentiments which *Time* ascribed to Mr. Homer Martin while the General Motors strike was in full blast:

Mr. Martin had known anti-union discrimination and the nerve-racking speed-up of the assembly lines at first hand. He had seen automobile labor, with a scattering of small unions, repeatedly frustrated and defeated in its attempts to right its wrongs. It was obviously presumptuous of him to demand, when he could not even claim to represent a majority of G. M. employees, that his union be recognized as sole bargaining agency for them all. But if there was to be industrial democracy in G. M. he had to be presumptuous. Only a potent national union could hope to bargain effectively with so great and so centralized an organization as General Motors.

This is a problem that is apparently going to take a good deal of solving. When labor asserts its right to be organic and autonomous, capital will say that labor is merely being presumptuous. In the General Motors strike, Mr. Sloan asked a question which expressed in a few concise phrases all the pent-up anguish of outraged capitalism. "Will a labor organization," asked Mr. Sloan in full-page advertisements in the newspapers, on bulletin boards in Flint and Detroit and through the mouths of many radiosophists, "run the General Motors Corporation, or will the management continue to do so?" Now Mr. Sloan's question is a fair one and unless we can meet it fairly, the whole Catholic argument for the autonomous character of labor unions falls to the ground.

Granted that there is a bond between workingmen that must be emphasized if the human dignity of the laborer is to be preserved, granted that the economic life should be made organic according to the precepts of Leo and Pius, what about capital? Is the "management" not a part of this economic organism? Is there no bond between workman and employer? And if there is such a bond, what is its nature? This is really what Messrs. Sloan, Chrysler, Girdler, Ford want to know. To answer them we need only to turn to "Rerum Novarum" and "Quadragesimo Anno."

Quoting Saint Thomas Aquinas, Pius XI says that "genuine social order demands various members of society united by a common bond" and he continues as follows:

Such a bond is provided on the one hand by the common effort of employers and employees of the same group joining forces to produce goods or give services; on the other hand by the common good which all groups should unite to promote.

In other words, the economic order is part of the social order only on condition that employers and employees are united by a common bond. The end of the economic order, like the end of the social order, is the common good. But the means of the economic order (and here the economic order is unique) is the production of goods and services. And Pope Pius adds:

This union will become more powerful and efficacious in proportion to the fidelity with which the individuals and the groups strive to discharge their professional duties.

There is then a bond between employer and employee. But observe! The employer as well as the laborer is in duty bound to view this bond—which binds laborer to fellow laborer and to

¹This is the concluding instalment of an article begun in last week's issue.

employer as it binds employer to fellow employer and to laborer—from both the viewpoints mentioned by the Pope. That is to say, it is not enough to regard this bond merely from the standpoint of means (the production of goods and services). It must also be regarded from the standpoint of the end which is the common good. An example will help to clarify the meaning here.

Consider any group of C.I.O. strikers who are striking for the right of "collective bargaining." For the purposes of this argument, the "sit-down" strikers who occupied the General Motors factories during the month of January, 1937, will do as well as any other group. Did these men regard the bond which, according to Pius XI, must exist between workmen and their employers if the economic order is to harmonize with the social order, from the standpoint of means or of end?

Certainly they did not regard it solely from the standpoint of means. For, if they had so considered it, the motor strike would never have been called; the assembly lines of the General Motors Corporation would have run forty-four days longer than they will ever run now; thousands of automobiles would have been produced that will now never see the light of a filling station—and, from the standpoint of production of goods, everything would have been "hunky-dory."

For whom? For the General Motors Corporation, of course; for the Du Pont dividendeers, the owners of raw materials, the retail dealers, the affiliated credit companies, the associated interests of the General Motors Corporation. But not so "hunky-dory" for the workmen of the U.A.W. who evidently desire a "good" which is outside of and beyond the benefits of mass production accruing to the agencies enumerated above. Else they would have hardly denied themselves their share of these benefits for forty-four days.

But is there in the economic society a good which cannot be wholly identified with production? Is there really a bond between employer and laborer which must be insisted on if the benefits of the common economic effort are to do more than "trickle down by gravity from the top to the bottom"? Pope Pius XI unhesitatingly affirms the existence of such a good and such a bond and the laborers of the U.A.W. seem inclined to agree with him. It is the common good and it is badly in need of definition in America today.

The common good is not the good of the corporate body, taken by itself. This is the argument of economic Fascism which, regarding the whole as the end and the parts as the means, has no hesitation in sacrificing the individual to the corporation. Those who advocate this doctrine simply apply Caesarism to industry. In their own inimitable way, they would say, as certain European dictators have been quoted as saying:

As long as the streets [factories] are clean, as long as the trains [assembly lines] run according to schedule, as long as the State [corporation] increases its girth—anything goes.

Nor is the common good the mathematical aggregate of the separate benefits accruing to each individual under a free competitive system. This is the argument of the "economic royalists" who hold that the economic order is bettered merely by increasing the total wealth without regard to its proper distribution. Those who advocate this doctrine would apply feudalism to industry.

But the common good is a good which is common to the whole and to its parts. That is to say, it is a good which admits of a qualitative as well as a quantitative redistribution of its parts. And the parts are considered, with regard to this redistribution, "no longer as mere parts, but as persons" and becoming in a certain sense, ends. That is the way Jacques Maritain puts it and I, for one, believe that M. Maritain knows what he is talking about. For a "person," according to our American philosophy from Emerson down to Josiah Royce, is "a being of inalienable dignity and worth and can never be wholly reduced to a means." Those who advocate this doctrine would apply democracy to industry. And for this reason they would make the economic order organic.

At any rate this is the argument of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Pope Leo XIII, Pope Pius XI, Mr. Roosevelt, M. Jacques Maritain and Mr. John L. Lewis. It is not the argument of Messrs. Sloan, Chrysler, Girdler, Ford. And by this very fact, these gentlemen have, in a manner of speaking, ruptured the bond between capital and labor. For as long as management insists on regarding the economic bond solely from the standpoint of production of goods, so long will management do everything in its power to prevent the economic society from becoming organic, since "organic" has no other meaning than the proper sharing of the common good. Now, if management has no interest in the common good, then, morally speaking, management abdicates.

To put this thesis as bluntly as possible: the bond between the laborer and his employer cannot be regarded merely as a matter of production, since the object, end and goal of this bond is the common good which can never be wholly reduced to production. Therefore if capital is to come into the organic economic society, it can only do so on condition that it assumes a relation of trusteeship. For otherwise, having the common good in mind, no organic economic society is possible. And if capital refuses to take its rightful place as administrator of the common good of industry, labor must choose between servitude and chaos.

There is in the economic society a natural and normal subordination of the many to the few, of workmen to managers, of labor to capital. But

there must also be in this society a solidarity that is not only lateral but vertical, that includes the owners as well as the workmen. Otherwise the economic society will lose its organic character. It will have no more cohesion than a band of thieves who unite to rob and break up over the division of the spoil.

Thus when we say that management implies trusteeship, we do not deny to management its rightful power. We do not mean that in industry, any more than in government, the tail should wag the dog. Men are banded together in economic life to subdue nature which is hard, adverse, hostile and which says to us, "Conquer me or perish." There is no question about the necessity of co-operation here. The only question that arises has to do with the means by which this cooperative effort should be applied. Now the job of management is to choose the means. The job of labor is to apply them. But management must not choose

a means that fails to conserve the common good. It must take into consideration the hours of labor, the conditions of labor, wages, the social character of labor, the human dignity of the laborer.

In reminding management of these things, labor seeks merely to elevate management to its rightful position in an organic economic society. Sometimes, particularly when it is Mr. Lewis who is speaking, the reminder may seem a trifle loud. This is because it is not always easy to make management understand these things. Mr. Roosevelt, who has had difficulties in this regard, was also quite emphatic about the importance of the common good when he said in his inaugural address:

We are determined to make every American citizen the subject of his country's interest and concern. . . . The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

BUTTERFLIES

By ROBERT SPARKS WALKER

WHEN I was a child, a butterfly's dress and its gypsy-like manner of living was my ideal. Butterflies are fairy realities, and a child would have little faith in fairies were it not for them. Of the two kinds of fairies—butterflies and moths—one rarely hears a child mention the moths. Their marked indifference toward creatures equally as beautiful as butterflies probably comes from the fact that moths are chiefly nocturnal, and take to their wings about the time that a child takes to its bed. Moths and children, as a rule, do not contact until the child has reached the age when realities are realities and moths are simply winged insects!

That some moths are asleep in the dense grasses, foliage or trees and shrubs in the daytime makes a catchy beginning of a real fairy story for any child, but to take him out into the soft grasses about midday and show him that shuffling his feet as he walks along will cause moths to take flight, brings the story into reality.

Once I took ten children—sturdy, strong and normal boys and girls—on a moth hunt. As we walked in a long-drawn-out line, we held our open hats in our hands and shuffled our feet in the loose grass. Merry voices kept pace with merry feet, and we had not walked a rod until we frightened a handsome moth. We chased it frantically for twenty-five feet, and I was just ready to scoop it up in my open hat when a tiny bird surprised me as greatly as he would have had he dropped from the skies. He darted down and snapped up my near-prize in his beak and flew away! This was

a remarkable experience for my small outdoor party. Finally the screams and excitement died down, and we resumed our march forward, only to be foiled again in our hunt a few feet farther on. We frightened another moth, but before anyone could place a hat over it, the same little bird darted down and literally stole it from us!

When the bird took the moth from us, he flew to a small limb over our heads, perched himself and waited for us to proceed on our way. There he sat and watched and waited, and would not move on until we chose to go forward. Halting and moving whenever we did, this little feathered guest followed us throughout our open woodland. He was the most persistent, the most patient, and the friendliest bird in the wilds that I have ever met. During our two hours of searching for pretty moths, this least flycatcher stayed close overhead. We frightened twenty moths from their noonday nap, but the bird took nineteen of them for his share and we but one!

An interesting angle on the study of butterflies was taken from the observation car of a train en route from Chattanooga, Tennessee, to Cincinnati, Ohio. It was September when butterflies were tramping lazily and leisurely from the north United States and Canada southward. In late summer and early autumn, the railway beds make as attractive routes for butterflies in their migratory wanderings as the crossties did fifty years ago for human vagabonds before the days of hitchhiking. I had often desired to observe the influence of a swiftly moving railway train on the

flight of butterflies. A September day with its scanty supply of wild flowers on account of a protracted drouth promised a favorable opportunity.

Our train had traveled fully forty miles northward on its course before we ran into any noticeable numbers of butterflies. To have witnessed their upward thrust, blasted there by the plunging of the train through the air, would have required a seat in the engine.

Quite naturally, there were three directions from which the disturbed butterflies descended, but those that came bounding back from a vertical height offered the more interesting spectacle. As the air currents rushed in from the left and right, the butterflies came in as helpless as if they were riding the breakers at sea. As soon as the gap of air was filled, however, they quickly arighted their living airplanes, regained their equilibrium and then began to function their wings normally. Again they were masters of direction in traveling. Sometimes as many as ten beautiful butterflies were observed descending at the same time. I had already proved the practicability of studying and identifying wild flowers, trees and birds from a fast-moving train, but little did I dream that one could thus so successfully identify the species of butterflies.

The well-known Monarch butterfly is somewhat renowned as a migratory creature. It was an easy matter to identify it, and also the Zebra whose stripes were easily read from the train even when it was moving more than sixty miles per hour. The little Fritillaries were very numerous. The Cloudless Sulphur was like a golden leaf incarnated and is a beautiful creation whether viewed from a moving passenger train or when the observer is sitting still. The Hunter, the Buckeye, the Red Admiral, the Mourning-cloaks, the Tiger-Swallow-tails, and even some of the small species with prominent markings I could identify.

There was no thrill at the sight of the butterflies beating helplessly the windy waves of rushing currents as they were carried helplessly about from the sides of the train and track, but there was genuine entertainment in the program of the butterflies which the plunging train had caught floating lightly down the middle of the track and had hurled skyward. Just how high, I do not know, but a few of them I caught sight of as they were making their descent from a distance of more than fifty feet. Compared to those that were rushed in from the sides, the drop was made with a little more grace, and the sight reminded me much of the gliding of children down the chutes in the public parks. Sometimes the butterflies came down so softly that it was difficult to think that they had any weight whatever. Even so, it looked as if the impact of their bodies against the railway bed and cross-ties would crush them, but just before each butterfly reached the

earth it glided safely away. Again it regained control of its wings and went on in its search of nectar, moving southward always. Along the first hundred and fifty miles scores of butterflies were disturbed by our moving train.

I had witnessed the Monarch on certain October days floating by the thousands as brown leaves, coming all the way from Canada southward to the land of perpetual flowers. I noticed that other species of butterflies do not travel as rapidly, but every little flight from blossom to blossom took them in a southerly direction. In fact, I never once observed a single butterfly going in any other direction.

I had been royally entertained for several hours when I went inside the observation car to take down fresh notes. Two young persons, a man and woman, who had been sitting on the rear of the car engaged me in conversation, and I was forced to disclose the fact that I was preparing a magazine article, and had been studying butterflies from the rear platform of the train.

"When and where did you see any butterflies?" they inquired.

"There were hundreds of them, rushing downwards from the rear of the train," I replied.

They looked at each other and smiled as if they doubted my statement, and then the young man answered, "It seems funny that we were sitting out there at the same time you were taking notes, and we did not see a single butterfly."

"That's not strange. I was looking for them. You were not. People usually see what they are looking for. For many years I have been training my eyes to see the little things in the world; those that are beautiful," I tried to explain.

He shook his head as if he still thought I was joking. There was about a half hour of sunshine left. He and the young woman hurried to the platform to see if there were any butterflies left to corroborate my statements.

Astronomer

My homeroom class was hanging out the stars,
Arranged on cardboard charts for Science Two;
An orange was the sun, a painted blue
Balloon was Venus, and a red one, Mars.
They dived in textbooks for particulars
And harried me with questions on the hue
Of Saturn, and found things they never knew
In almanacs and gaudy calendars.

They had painted Uranus a shade
That never was on sky or sea or land;
He stared upon the universe he'd made
And saw that it was good, then propped a hand
Beneath his chin and pondered as he said,
"You know, I feel just like a grain of sand!"

GERALD RAFTERY.

END OF RURAL MANHATTAN

By FRANCES TAYLOR PATTERSON

BY AN odd quirk of expansion Spuyten Duyvil, geographically a part of New York's congested metropolitan area, remained until recently a place of old trees and broad lawns sloping down to the river. It was the curve at the base of this high wooded promontory which first sheltered Hendrik Hudson and his Half Moon in 1607. It is called Hendrik Hudson's Cove, and the woods along its shore are known as Inwood, short for Indian-wood. Lately, beside the ancient tulip tree which is said to be the oldest tree on Manhattan Island a very modern growth has sprung. The Hendrik Hudson Bridge now help the George Washington, Queensboro and Williamsburg Bridges in overcoming Manhattan's insularity.

In the spring of 1935 there was a little farm on the level ground by the river bank just before the hills of Spuyten Duyvil begin their sharp ascent. A young couple took possession of an abandoned shack, painted "Pleasant View Farm" on the side of it with white letters, and proceeded to till the earth. It was a pleasant view. They looked down on the silver river with its tugboats going leisurely by and the less leisurely shells of the Columbia crew, preparing hectically for the Poughkeepsie boat races. On the west bank new green and forsythia and dogwood brightened the last thickly wooded section of Manhattan Island. From my piazzas higher up the hill I looked down on the snug little farm . . . and the river. Now traffic, Westchester bound, looks down from 142 feet in the air on me and my piazzas and the river, but not the farm. One of the bridge's splay feet is planted on it.

Pleasant View Farm was short-lived. In June of 1935 I went away with a picture in my mind of the young corn pushing up greenly by the river bank. In September I returned to find an utterly different crop, a harvest of planks, girders and dredgers. Instead of chickens digging small for worms, a flock of monsters known as steam-shovels were biting huge pieces out of the earth with their iron maws. The cheery bucolic voice of chanticleer was replaced each morning by the raucous shrill of a whistle.

All day a gasoline pump kept up an asthmatic breathing. A race of pygmies moiled in strange wooden caves sunk into the entrails of the earth. But the "spitting waters," which is what Spuyten Duyvil says in Dutch, kept spitting themselves into the excavation and defied any twentieth-century gasoline pump to disenfranchise their immemorial right of way. An orchestra of hammers joined the gasoline pump in its Philippic against the old order.

At last both earth and water were completely dispossessed and the wooden frames were ready for the cement to be poured in. Over the brow of the hill came a new set of monsters, breathing hoarsely "in second," trucks carrying mounted cylinders of mixed cement. For days they continued, a "Big Parade," each noisily tilting its tank and pouring the harsh liquid mass into the earth and then departing to make way for the next tank.

Presently the wooden forms began to extend themselves into the air. On the higher ground of the west bank the

footings were of course lower and they resembled nothing so much as a colony of bee-hives squatting on the hill. By and by the yellow pine was peeled off and the pillars emerged, looking a bit bare and new-born, concrete change-lings in the midst of Inwood's ancient family of trees.

On the flat cars of the railroad the pieces of a gigantic jig-saw puzzle began to arrive. The iron oxide red paint with which they were bedecked to prevent corrosion added to the impression that here were bright toys. Cranes began swinging them into place, each one ridden by a figure or two sculptured by height out of any semblance to a man. The single pieces were painted with a letter or a part of a letter. Magically the words "A-M-E-R-I-C-A-N B-R-I-D-G-E C-O-M-P-A-N-Y" began to form in the air, like sky writing. When one section was finished the words began over again. One, two, three, four American Bridge Companies across the river . . . five. . . Riveting was in full swing. Every so often burning rivets dropped like falling stars into the river.

At first it seemed as if the arch must be going up at an angle of forty-five degrees, so sheer and precipitous was the rim on which the men went to work. Finally the span was like the rim of a huge pie with a bite out of it. On a magnificent summer day the last section was swung aloft and lowered into place. The largest hingeless single-arch span in the world was complete. It remained to lay the road-bed on the flat steelwork atop the arch. Up there a section boss had set up a gaily striped beach umbrella to protect him from the hot summer sun, a droll sort of one-man Lido hung between heaven and earth.

Naturally the bumper crop of noise which the bridge harvested discommoded a good many of us who had been living in leafy quiet above the river, but we stayed on. One group of inhabitants, however, did not stay. The river gulls, taking their daily meal on the mud flats at low tide, were outraged by the sudden unholy din. They dropped their lunch, circled like maniacs above the lacy steel work, indignantly shrieking their protests, and finally departed for the Upper Bay and the comparative quiet of fog horns and the whistles of harbor craft. Their going was quickly compensated for by another sort of bird. Airplanes were forever swooping down over the bridge, probably taking photographs of it from every conceivable angle and in every stage of its development.

When the crescent of the young November moon looked to see itself reflected mistily in the ring of shadow thrown by the wooded promontory of the end of Manhattan over the waters of the Harlem, it found it had begotten a twin. The reflection of another crescent lay on the water—Hendrik Hudson's new half-moon.

By December 12 the moon had a thousand competitors. Brilliant headlights and ruby tail-lights blended as four lanes of cars went their divers way. The dun-colored procession of workmen who for months had crawled along the bridge seemed to have sown dragon's teeth from which had sprung this rushing army with jeweled eyes. Before the automobiles, the workmen. Before the workmen, ears of corn. Before the ears of corn, Indians. And in the dictionary the word, "Progress."

Seven Days' Survey

The Church.—Silver jubilees of two outstanding Vatican prelates have brought to light an extraordinary fact with relation to each of them. The Most Reverend Giovanni Maria Zonghi, Titular Archbishop of Colossus, who observed his twenty-fifth anniversary as president of the Pontifical Academy of Noble Ecclesiastics, is the only person now living who was a witness to the Vatican Ecumenical Council of 1870. Monsignor Alberto Arborio Mella de Sant'Elia observed the twenty-fifth anniversary of his entrance to the Papal Court. He now holds the office of Maestro di Camera to Pope Pius XI. * * * Dr. Francis J. Haas, rector of the Seminary of St. Francis de Sales, Milwaukee, Wis., has been named a Domestic Prelate by His Holiness Pope Pius XI with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor. * * * "Perfect service is love in action," declared the Reverend Thomas A. Carney, pastor of the Shrine of the True Cross, Dickinson, Texas, August 1, in the first address of his current series over the "Catholic Hour." * * * One thousand delegates from twenty states and the District of Columbia are expected in Hartford, Conn., for the eighty-second national convention of the Catholic Central Verein of America and the twenty-first convention of the National Catholic Women's Union, to be held August 14 to 18. * * * Approximately 800 nurses from 22 countries attended the third International Congress of Catholic Associations of Nurses held in London, July 26, under the presidency of the most Reverend Arthur Hinsley, Archbishop of Westminster. * * * Over 20,000 Catholics attended the Catholic Congress held in July at Mlada Boleslav, a city in northeast Bohemia. With the watchword, "For Christ and Country," the congress was held under the auspices of the Most Reverend Anton Weber, Archbishop of Leitmeritz. * * * Churches in suburbs of Vienna built with newspaper profits is the outstanding achievement of Father Joseph Gorbach. With seven churches built and two more under construction, he has rescued the working classes in the suburbs of Vienna from the propaganda of organized godlessness. For this both Austrian notables and the workers among whom he labored paid him special tribute on his golden jubilee. * * * A remarkable ceremony took place July 23 in a distant mission in Basutoland, Africa, when the chief, Theke Makhaelo Leretholi, and 304 of his tribe were received into the Church by the Most Reverend Joseph Bonhomme, O.M.I., Vicar Apostolic of Basutoland. The following morning witnessed the Confirmation of 428 native Catholics. * * * On August 3, Detroit became the seat of the seventeenth Catholic Archdiocese in the United States when the Most Reverend Edward Mooney was installed as Michigan's first Archbishop.

The Nation.—Cost of living figures showed that Washington is our most expensive city. For an average working class family of four persons in that city it takes

\$1,415 a year to keep to the "maintenance level" and \$1,014 for an "emergency level." In New York the figures are \$1,375 and \$982. The average for fifty-nine communities studied is \$1,261 and \$903. * * * United States exports, including reexports, during the month of June, 1937, were valued at \$265,363,000 as compared to \$185,693,000 in June, 1936. Imports were valued at \$286,946,000 last June, and at \$191,077,000 in June, 1936. The physical volume of exports for the first six months of the year was up 28 percent over last year, and imports, 28 percent. * * * The Philadelphia Bureau of Municipal Research is backing a city manager plan as a substitute for the present Mayor-Council system. A City Charter Commission has been formed there to get the basic law changed. * * * The President made a strong statement in a press conference asserting that he will fight any renewal of federal loans on crops unless such loans are coupled with federal production control machinery. * * * Chicago grain experts published estimates for this year's principal grain crops in the country. The aggregate figure for wheat, corn, oats, rye and barley was 5,041,000,000 bushels, an increase of 3,112,000,000 over last year. At August 1 prices these bushels would have a value of \$3,400,000,000, the greatest in recent years. * * * The Great Plains Shelterbelt of trees, begun in March, 1935, is reported to be growing into a reality, with 44,178,048 trees already planted. This year 1,324,400 miles of trees, or a total of 20,406,987 have been planted in 15,283 acres. The cost has been reduced to \$18 an acre, the total expense to July 1 being about \$3,000,000. The Forest Service judges that 40 acres of trees help save 600 acres of land.

The Wide World.—Confessional pastors in Berlin announced that approximately sixty Protestant clergymen and laymen had been imprisoned. According to a Reichsbank statement, German currency circulation climbed to 7,106,000,000 marks—a new post-war inflation record. The official gold coverage showed a further drop of 75,000,000 marks, or slightly more than 1 percent. Brazil's Acting Finance Minister Villea canceled a trade agreement whereby Germany was permitted to purchase 100,000 bags of Brazilian coffee for sale in Europe. * * * British-Italian relations were considerably improved by a personal exchange of letters between Prime Minister Chamberlain and Premier Mussolini. Italy is reported to be ambitious to conclude a new Locarno pact. * * * Addressing the Zionist World Congress at Zurich, Switzerland, President Chaim Weizmann denied that Britain's Palestine mandate was inherently unworkable and sharply criticized both British administration of the mandate and Britain's decision to restrain immigration into Palestine. Meanwhile the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations began an examination of the orders that started in Palestine in April, 1936. * * * The

Somme-Py World War Memorial was dedicated on August 3 by Harry W. Colmery, National Commander of the American Legion, who asserted that Americans were greatly worried over the European war danger. Another memorial, commemorating the St. Mihiel offensive by American troops, was also officially dedicated at Montsec.

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The Far East.—It is reliably reported that the Japanese Ambassador, Shigeru Kawagoe, is journeying from Tientsin to Nanking for the purpose of attempting to negotiate a compromise agreement for North China. Great Britain favors a peaceful settlement. The Nanking government must now make the very difficult decision as to whether it should agree to the surrender of North China or engage in a major conflict with Japan. The Japanese troops advanced rapidly fifteen miles south of Tientsin and within a few miles of the eastern column of the Twenty-ninth Chinese Army. Another large body of Japanese troops was marching against Paoting, capital of Hopeh Province, on the Peiping-Hankow Railroad. Chinese troops are moving northward and may soon engage the Japanese in what may be a decisive battle. Secretary of State Cordell Hull announced that all Americans in the Peiping-Tientsin area were safe and that conditions in that region were less acute.

Congress.—The plan adopted by administration forces after the defeat of the Court Bill to keep Congress working on the Wages and Hours, Housing, Judiciary, Tax Loopholes and Sugar bills held fairly well during the congressional week. The House hinted it might do more about taxes than was scheduled when the question of abolishing the capital gains and losses provisions of the income tax was agitated while a Joint Congressional Committee was working on a law to stuff up the loopholes in the present tax system. The House caused another delay by passing as a rider to the District of Columbia tax law the Miller-Tydings measure which legalizes agreements between manufacturers and retailers fixing selling prices of trade-marked and patented goods. The administration opposed this as likely to penalize consumers. The representatives also passed a resolution asking army engineers to submit a comprehensive flood control plan for all the major streams of the country, keeping in consideration flood control, hydroelectric power and conservation. The President let it be known that he opposed the acceptance by Congress of the recent New England flood control compacts unless all power rights arising from federal construction be reserved for the federal government. The sugar quota system embodied in the present Jones-Costigan Act which expires at the end of the year was up for debate. The system includes import quotas for Puerto Rico, Hawaii and Cuba and quotas and bounties for domestic sugar. Sugar congressmen were putting up a stiff fight against the administration in an effort to reduce the import quotas, especially those on refined sugar from the islands. After getting past the Wages and Hours Bill, the Senate took up the

housing measures, but not before reviving recent animosities in debates over the propriety of a recess appointment to the Supreme Court.

Spain.—It is rumored that the Vatican may extend formal recognition to the Nationalist government. An unconfirmed dispatch from Salamanca indicated that the Nationalist government has been granted permission to send an official diplomatic representative to the Vatican. The Nationalist diplomatic Cabinet issued a note which asserted: "We feel considerable satisfaction in announcing the fact that the traditional good relations which exist between the genuine Nationalist Catholic Spain and the Holy See on this occasion enter into a legal expression which will permit in the future more intimate and closer relations." At present the Holy See extends semi-recognition to both the Nationalist and Loyalist governments. An Associated Press report stated that Nationalist troops were advancing steadily on the Teruel front. The immediate objective is the Cuenca highway, running southwest from Teruel and joining the main Valencia-Madrid highway at Cuenca. If he captures it, General Franco may be able to strike directly at the Valencia-Madrid artery. The Nationalist forces, in their newest drive, claimed the conquest of about 580 square miles of territory. War stores captured at Bezas included ammunition, grenades and other equipment sufficient for a battalion, more than 1,000 pairs of shoes and enough food to feed two regiments for a month. Loyalist planes bombed Burgos, inflicting slight damage. The Madrid front was quiet. On the Huesca front, Loyalist troops captured the village of Baile. On the Guadarrama front, Loyalist forces checked the Nationalists near Alcodeleon.

Labor.—August 5 ended the first year since the A. F. of L. ordered the suspension of the unions joined in the C.I.O. During the year membership in the C.I.O. rose from about 1,000,000 to about 3,200,000 and its officers think the number will soon pass the present A. F. of L. figure of 3,600,000. C.I.O. drives now being carried on most strenuously are among cotton, woolen and rayon textile workers; garment, shoe, oil and shipyard workers; and a new one has just been decided upon among the 500,000 workers in the communications industry. The steel drive had apparently bogged down, most activity for the time going on before labor boards. At the beginning of the struggle the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers had around 8,000 members and had about ten contracts with companies. Now it claims 510,000 members, 490,000 of whom are covered by 322 contracts. In Hershey, Pa., delegates of "independent" unions met, representing every industry except mining. Opposed to the A. F. of L. and the C.I.O., they formed a federation as "a vehicle sufficiently strong to impress the National Labor Relations Board." The independent federation plans to have 1,000,000 members by the end of the year. Forty-three employees were discharged by the Allegheny Steel Company for holding a union meeting on company property in defiance of the rules embodied in a contract with S.W.O.C. The union agreed that

discipline was justified, and tried to make it one week's loss of work and pay. Homer Martin, head of the Automobile Workers Union, after a consultation with C.I.O. officials, announced that his union is now ready and able to enforce strict labor discipline in the ranks. He continued to maintain that the unauthorized strikes in General Motors and other plants which have angered Mr. Sloan and other industrialists were brought on more by the companies than by the employees.

Wages and Hours.—The Senate passed the Wages and Hours Bill, described as making the government the collective bargaining agency for unorganized workers. Thirteen Republicans voted against it and fifteen Democrats, mostly Southerners and some strong anti-New Dealers. Unexpected opposition was furnished by John P. Frey, president of the metal trades department of the A. F. of L., and J. W. Williams, head of the building trades department. Senators had difficulty finding out President Green's position, which turned out to be favorable, in spite of his insistence on several amendments. The A. F. of L. wants assurance that the Walsh-Healey Act, providing "NRA standards" for goods purchased by the government, will not be endangered. It also wants specific amendments providing that new minimums will not endanger collective bargains providing higher minimums than the statutory, and that no minimum will be lower than the "going rate" for the region. A flood of amendments were proposed in the Senate. Those passed would exempt from the effect of the act: packers of perishable agricultural products, workers in cooperative plants in dairy regions handling milk and butter, gatherers and packers of perishable fruits in season and railway express employees covered by the Railway Labor Act. The original child labor provisions were taken out and provisions following the Johnson-Wheeler bill substituted. These handle the problem of child labor in the way prison labor is now handled and keep the subject out of the hands of the proposed Labor Standards Board. The House in committee had difficulties in drawing up its version of the bill. The Southerners were mobilizing for another onslaught against the whole measure. Others were pressing for a more radical bill. As finally reported by the House Committee, the bill contained seven amendments embodying A. F. of L. demands, and a host of other alterations. The original child labor provisions were put back; embargoes against sub-standard foreign goods were threatened, against the wishes of the State Department; the way was left open for North-South wage differentials.

Non-Catholic Religious Activities.—Delegates from the United States attending the Oxford Conference heard Dr. William Adams Brown present in some detail, at a special meeting, the proposal for the organization of a World Council of Churches which had been offered previously at a plenary session of the conference. There were about 200 delegates present and the prevailing opinion was that the general proposal would be approved but that the scheme of organization and of representa-

tion should be studied further before any commitment was made and it was so voted. The desirability of study groups composed of various elements in the churches for systematic study of the Oxford reports was strongly urged, as was the desirability of taking the story of the conference to church gatherings of every denomination. *** Of the sixty-six Baptist churches in Dallas County, Texas, sixty blazed with lights every night from July 29 to August 8 in an unworded call to depression-lost Baptists to return to the fold. The drive, which covered the state, had as its goal 100,000 Baptists who, because of the depression, became neglectful of their religious duties. *** Six women employed in a factory at Ephrata, Pa., members of the Mennonite religious sect, recently solved their religion-labor union problem by agreeing to pay dues to a union without actually joining the organization. The women said their religion forbids church members from belonging to labor organizations and the closed shop policy of the plant in which they are employed meant that they had to join the union or lose their jobs. After a conference with union leaders the compromise was announced.

Pamphlets.—A survey was recently made of the pamphlet room in the Philadelphia parish of St. John the Evangelist. The purpose of the survey was to discover the exact number of pamphlets that have been distributed to the public since the opening day, January 14, to June 30. The number was 20,404. This figure indicates an average monthly distribution of well over 3,000. The daily figure is well over 100. During that six-month period a total of 49,844 pamphlets was received from the various presses. The number of different titles on hand is 800, totaling 29,000 pamphlets. The pamphlet room is conducted by the parish Catholic Information League. The members of the League are members of the various parish organizations. A committee from each organization, under the supervision of the spiritual director, suggests and selects the pamphlet topics for distribution. A committee of volunteers from each parish organization assists in the work of arranging and tabulating the pamphlets. The pamphlet room occupies the entire front between the vestibules of the lower church. The entrances at the north and south vestibules lead into a spacious, paneled room containing over 1,500 pamphlet racks. The north entrance has a special department for Catholic magazines and newspapers. Pamphlets have been gathered from all over the world. The racks are divided into countries. The pamphlets represent publications of the Irish and English Catholic Truth Societies of Dublin, London, India and Australia, and the International Truth Society. The pamphlets are arranged according to dogmatic, moral, apologetic, controversial and historical content. Pamphlets in foreign languages are also available. Catholic study clubs of the city's schools and colleges are in the habit of placing orders for various quantities of pamphlets. They distribute them to their members who, in turn, pass them on to their neighbors. A nominal charge is placed on each pamphlet. The room is open daily from nine to nine.

Communications

THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER GUILD

Detroit, Mich.

TO the Editor: In connection with the recent letter (July 30) of George Joseph Nolan of Camden, a "member by compulsion" of the American Newspaper Guild: What Mr. Nolan says about the Guild having fallen into the hands of Leftist elements is certainly true; but his letter implies a despair which would prohibit anything being done about it.

The Leftward swing of the Guild is squarely the fault of the better balanced and more sensible elements of its membership. By their woeful failure to take an active part in Guild activities, they surrendered it to the radicals. While they were asleep a reckless pilot took the helm. Now they feel they should desert the ship.

But it is the *only* ship. Brother Nolan himself admits that on his deck there isn't even a lifeboat on which a dissenter can depart.

To him and to other disgruntled Guildsmen I say: Wake up and fight! All over the country newspapermen are in revolt against the present leadership and the actions of the "hand-picked" St. Louis convention—hand-picked because the saner members of the newspaper craft were too lazy to share in the picking.

Referenda on the actions of the convention have been demanded and will be held. It appears that the Guild will be forced to go along with C.I.O. because it would be impractical to return either to the A. F. of L. or to the status of an independent union. But it is not necessary that we tolerate any longer a leadership which is steering us into class warfare.

In Detroit a conservative minority, aroused by the St. Louis convention's acts, has already grown to a working majority. The course of our local Guild is being changed. This can be done in every local.

I invite Mr. Nolan and all other dissatisfied Guildsmen who read this to write to me in care of the Detroit *Times*, and make common cause for the salvation of the Guild. Let us not give up the ship!

PAUL WEBER.

NORTH CHINA INCIDENT

San Francisco, Calif.

TO the Editor: The cause of peace is not furthered by uncritical reaffirmations of conventional attitudes or popular beliefs. The writer of the editorial, "North China Incident," does not display any depth of critical analysis of the current European scene or of history when he says: "Will we cooperate, or try to cooperate with Great Britain and with other nations who firmly hold to the ideals of peace and the principles of equitable arbitration and do our utmost to settle the quarrel by peaceful means?" Except restiveness or apprehension be synonymous with peace there is no relation between it and the dominance of Great Britain in world affairs. Lately it has "fumbled through"—but badly for her own prestige—and if we cooperate with her, in the

sense of close coordination, we shall fumble too. The movements of Britain have never been in the interests of peace but rather in the maintenance of the balance of power in European and world affairs. She led (beguiled) the nations of the world in applying sanctions against Italy—to frustrate the conquest of Ethiopia? No, but to forestall a dire threat to the sovereignty of Britain over Egypt. Without the Nile, whose headwaters are in Ethiopia, Egypt would be only a part of the Great Sahara desert. It was only after Italian domination in Ethiopia was imminent that Britain granted local autonomy to the Egyptians. And the news shows that Britain was not blameless in the recent attempted assassination of General Graziani in Addis Ababa. Nor is her part any different in Spain. Having commitments there guaranteed by the Loyalist government, covertly she lent it aid while outwardly she gave the impression of disinterestedness. Dissimulation thy name is Britain.

When central Europe is more or less under the influence of Berlin, the Mediterranean basin under Rome, and the western European nations occupied with the development and equitable administration of their colonial possessions in Africa and elsewhere, there will automatically be established a balance among them which will be more conducive to true peace than the protection or support of any particular group—even though that group be the "democracies."

JOHN F. QUINLAN, M. D.

BOOK REVIEWS

San Antonio, Texas.

TO the Editor: I heartily agree with Professor Bell in his letter published in the July 23 issue of *THE COMMONWEAL*, on the question of the review of books in history by persons trained and competent to write fair and yet critical reviews. The instance which he cites, that of the review of Curtis's "History of Ireland" in the June 25 issue is only one of a considerable number over the past few years, in which people were set to reviewing historical works who obviously knew little about the period of the book, or had no professional training in history. *THE COMMONWEAL* is too fine a journal to admit the airing of nationalistic prejudices or the display of pet theories within its book review section.

This whole matter of critical book reviewing is one which has caused considerable pain to many readers of our Catholic journals. What is the purpose of a book review if it is not to give an impartial survey of the book's content, and to pass critical judgment—and that by those in a position to be critical—on the book's merits and shortcomings? Some of our Catholic periodicals are guilty of sending out books to persons quite unable to judge them critically. Others—and *THE COMMONWEAL* so far as I know is not among the number—refuse to print a review that is genuinely critical. The book review section is not the place for pretty compliments and the exposure of reviewers' ideas on historical movements. Such factors in the book review columns of many Catholic periodicals have made them all but worthless.

JOHN TRACY ELLIS.

The Screen

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

Stella Dallas

OLIVE HIGGINS PROUTY'S famous novel of mother love and sacrifice is the subject of the first of a series of modernized sound-film versions planned on many of the successes of the silent film. Samuel Goldwyn's production of her "Stella Dallas" introduces the new cycle which will shortly embrace "The Virginian," "The Prisoner of Zenda," "Desert Song," "Beau Geste" and others. In all such instances, the natural inclination is to make an immediate comparison of the predecessor: This "Stella Dallas" need tread no water to the "Stella Dallas" of twelve years ago. It is every bit as powerful in its strong emotions and sentimental melodramatics as the first; it is performed just as excellently, and is produced even more elegantly.

Mr. Goldwyn and King Vidor, the director, who together piloted the first "Stella Dallas" to the screen, again, obviously, pointed the Prouty story straight at the lachrymal gland. Their modernization, however, skillfully and understandingly moved the scene from the 1900's to the 1930's, thus bringing more believably close to the present the poignant tale of the back-country mill girl who married for love, but above her social sphere, and who then sacrificially gives up her daughter for the higher life because of her own inability to adjust herself.

Barbara Stanwyck, portraying the part which brought fame to Belle Bennett in 1925, is unfortunately permitted to costume rather ludicrously, giving exaggeration to her characterization of the woman who, out of sublime love, becomes tawdry and vulgar to turn her daughter's loyalty and attentions to the socialite father from whom the mother had been separated all during the child's adolescence. Principal supporting rôles are handled by John Boles, Barbara O'Neil, Alan Hale, Tim Holt and Anne Shirley, who takes first honors as the daughter.

The drama has comedy balance, also some ribald overbalance.

You Can't Have Everything

THE TITLE gives the lie to the contents, which include about every conceivable kind of run-of-the-mill claptrap imaginable. Such names as Rubinoff, Ritz Brothers, Don Ameche and Alice Faye in a bloc would, ordinarily, promise light musical-comedy merriment. But in this, a loose concoction of occasionally humorous gags, ordinary songs and hardly passable dance routines suffer further from a treatment in the saw-and-hammer fashion.

The Ritz Brothers, mad as they are, appear to be unsympathetic to the piece, likewise Alice Faye. Rubinoff is unusually overdramatic with his bow, and, Louise Hovick (Gypsy Rose Lee), making her cinema debut, definitely shows none of the signs of "great dramatic ability" for which Mr. Darryl Zanuck, the producer for Twentieth Century-Fox, is supposed to have brought her to Hollywood, from the "strip-tease." "You Can't Have Everything" moves quickly, but, incongruously.

Books

Three Novels

Eggs and Baker, by John Masfield. New York: The Macmillan Company. \$2.50.

Golden Wedding, by Anne Parrish. New York: Harper and Brothers. \$2.50.

The Legend of Helena Vaughan, by Robert Speaight. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.50.

THERE are three things necessary if one is to write a novel: command of language, freshness of perception, and a philosophy or general viewpoint. It is this last that bestows on the novel whatever form it has, decides its larger objectivity, and makes it interesting or uninteresting.

Of these three novels Mr. Masfield's most generously show a command of language and a freshness of sensibility. Mr. Masfield writes the almost scientifically exact prose so frequent with those practised in the use of rhyme and meter, perhaps because nothing ruins poetry like vagueness. This prose is put at the service of an observing nature which has long shown itself particularly acute. The story takes place in the seventies or eighties of the last century and concerns a baker in a small English town who allows his indiscriminate zeal for justice to ruin his business. Though the baker is a member of the established Church, he has somewhat Nonconformist mentality and inclines to take his private intuitions for God's commands; but this is not to say that he is a man without true charity and one who does not recognize that human forms by necessity must sometimes fail of absolute justice. Through him Mr. Masfield very tellingly shows that society does not invariably fulfil its manifest intentions; but occasionally this appears to mean it never does, and the fairy godmother who comes at last to relieve the baker's distress reminds one of that strange optimism which rides those who begin by pointing to the disparity between man's spiritual claims and his material nature and end by holding that exclusive attention to the latter will see the former realized. Mr. Masfield himself of course implies nothing so crude as that.

Miss Parrish takes a contrast between the material and the spiritual for her theme and traces it through fifty years of married life. A practical-minded poor boy marries a dreamy poor girl; the boy acquires, at the expense of his wife's dreams, the fortune he longs for and finds the fulfilment of his own dreams bitter. Where Miss Parrish is most successful is in showing the imperishable residuum of love that remains through all Laura's disappointments. But she illustrates the important truth that money cannot buy all, can buy nothing really worth having, with such obvious contrasts and at such length that her worthy moral becomes a bore. Had she Mr. Masfield's power of evoking setting and character, her variations on a theme would have been more interesting; as it is, she does a careful job and writes with a sincerity that not all authors of best-sellers evince. It is more than likely that her sympathetic, though not

August

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profound, understanding of the feminine heart offers a viewpoint attractive for personal reasons to those readers who will take up her book.

To Mr. Speaight's work it is impossible to allow charm of style, newness of subject, or depth of thought. The style, though the "present" of the book is 1969, exudes a decayed odor of lavender; the subject is not too harshly described as a feminine appropriation of "Sparkenbroke"; and the philosophy is of that peculiar variety which anyone seems able to distil from Shakespeare, and Mr. Speaight's characters do distil, with appropriate readings from the Bard at crucial moments. The Helena Vaughan of the title is an actress and acting, the jacket says, is Mr. Speaight's "principal profession." Charity bids us not to mock the busman's holiday, but there is no reason why we should take seriously his symbolization of it as life's journey.

GEOFFREY STONE.

Our Prison System

Prisons and Beyond, by Sanford Bates. New York: The Macmillan Company. \$3.50.

SANFORD BATES has written a provoking book packed full of facts about our prisons. The history of prisons and present deplorable conditions in our county jails lay the scenes for the question, "Have our prisons failed?" Prison riots and their causes are well analyzed and practical remedies suggested. The solution of work in the prison routine and new scientific discoveries are applied to the prison situation.

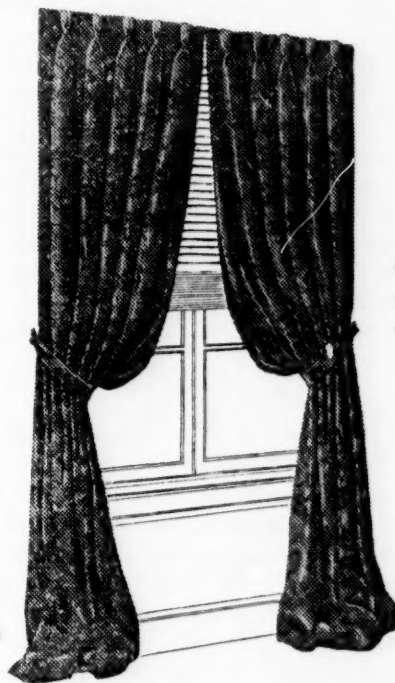
The federal prison system owes much to Sanford Bates, whose genius in administration and all-around ability made the federal system something to be proud of. Sanford Bates gives a splendid account of his objectives and his success in putting them through. His views are broad and sympathetic with the offender, insisting at the same time on protection for the public.

The purpose of a prison he says is "to protect, to deter, to improve." That punishment may be a cure is never admitted. He says, "I never believed that punishment had the deterrent effect which some people think it has." To prove that lessening punishment decreases crime, he cites the fact that when England and other nations mitigated punishment the number of men in prison decreased. Here he confuses cause and effect. Crime decreased in these countries especially because punishment over a long period of time did deter. Then when no longer necessary a wise nation mitigated its punishment. His position on parole is confusing. Admitting that there is a high incidence of recidivism, as high as 60 percent, he still maintains that less than 10 percent of these recidivists are parole violators. It would be interesting to have him explain where these recidivists come from. One looks in vain for an adequate appreciation of religion as an agent for reformation. The first mention of the chaplain comes on page 161, and all that is said of the chaplain and the force of religion to reform and reclaim covers less than two pages. Education and religion, the two great forces in reformation, are sidetracked.

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He advocates many substitutes for prison. Probation and extended parole are admitted by all. Penal colonies on remote islands (a terrible way to punish not only the convict but his family, putting them also in exile) would certainly be questioned. The use of farm and experimental industrial colonies, like the Soviet experiment at Bolshevo, while new are said to be sound.

The presentation of the facts of prison life and his treatment of substitutes for prison are the highlights of the book. The author's lack of clear thought on punishment and the social strength of religion and education are the shadows. It is too bad that these factors were not thought out more clearly and deeply. The book is provoking, strong on facts, weak on theory; but a book to be read by all interested in prisons.

JOHN P. McCaffrey.

Life

Biology, by U. A. Hauber and M. Ellen O'Hanlon. New York: F. S. Crofts and Company. \$3.90.

IT IS refreshing to find a textbook of biology for colleges written by persons who are qualified scientists and who "see no reason why the name of God should be taboo in a textbook of science." In several places special attention is given to the Christian and Catholic point of view when questions raised by the study of living things involve a consideration of philosophy or religious beliefs. This attitude is a decided contrast to those texts which give the impression that materialism is the only view of life consistent with scientific knowledge.

Dr. Hauber is head of the department of biology at St. Ambrose College, and Dr. O'Hanlon at Rosary College. They are of the opinion that biology should take a prominent place among the cultural courses and they approach the writing of a text for college students from that point of view. The philosophical implications of biological study are specially considered. A brief review of what geological investigation has learned of living forms in past ages introduces the question of evolution. The authors accept transformism as the explanation of the origin of species. A chapter on philosophical evolution clarifies for the student the important distinction between the scientific theory and the philosophical idea. The last part of the book deals with the application of biology to human problems. Heredity, the family, and eugenics are discussed. There is a good, though brief, exposition of the geological evidence for the age of man on the earth as determined by the remains of the glacial period. The skeletal evidence of early man is presented and the origin of man's body and mind considered. The nature of knowledge, personality, free will, and responsibility are discussed. A chapter on the history of biology concludes the book.

In the Appendix are a complete glossary and references for supplementary reading, and there is a detailed index. Diagrams and illustrations are numerous and well chosen.

As a teaching instrument the book is equal to any current text and is superior to many. Its chief appeal will be to teachers of biology but the general reader would greatly benefit from a reading of this text.

JAMES J. GRIFFIN.

Vacation

Away to Quebec, by Gordon Brinley; illustrated by Putnam Brinley. New York: Dodd, Mead and Company. \$2.50.

A TRAVEL BOOK should not only excel in description but should be well illustrated. This book with its twenty-four sketches and many smaller cuts fulfils those requirements. Slipping away from a summer at home, Dan, the Duchess, and Sally, a car, the chief characters of this book, took the road to Quebec, and its surrounding hinterland. From Connecticut, through New Hampshire and Vermont, on to Montreal and Quebec, and via the St. Lawrence and the Saguenay, up to Lake St. John, they toured and sailed their way through majestic scenery. Traveling without a fixed destination they saw the beauty of places little known, and enjoyed the country and its people. With clothing for any possibility they had a choice of state reservations, private homes, small country hotels, and their swanky town brothers. The description of all these places and the Duchess's Diary make fascinating reading. At the end of the book is valuable information as to mileage, places to stay, and interesting sights to see.

Wars and Profits

The Profits of War, by Richard Lewinsohn; translated by Geoffrey Sainsbury. New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. \$3.00.

IN THIS popularly written survey of war profits through the ages, the author emphasizes the fact that ever since there have been wars there have been profits derived from them. He considers profits derived from the business of fighting by Julius Caesar, Wallenstein and Marlborough; by such financiers as the Rothschilds and Morgan; by such armament firms as Schneiders, Krupp and the United States Steel Corporation; by contractors and speculators. The armament industry wants neither war nor too cloudless a peace, but the constant threat of war. In America, the view is gaining ground that whoever profits during war profits from it. In the future, war profits will be more and more indirect. Caesar's place will be taken, perhaps, "by some magnate of the canning trade."

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